

### Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

### Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A clamping and/or spreading tool ~~including a push or pull~~ comprising:  
a rod,  
~~wherein a gear~~ an entraining mechanism for displacing said ~~push or pull~~ rod in a first clamping  
~~and/or spreading direction and for blocking displacement of the rod in a second direction~~  
opposite to the first direction; and  
a lock, independent of said entraining gear mechanism, ~~for blocking~~ ~~block~~ displacement of said  
~~push or pull rod contrary to~~ in said ~~clamping and/or spreading~~ second direction, and  
a releasing means, ~~when actuated,~~ for canceling the blocking effect of said entraining gear  
mechanism and of said lock.
2. (Currently amended) The clamping and/or spreading tool ~~as claimed in~~ of claim 1, wherein  
said releasing means, ~~when actuated,~~ cancels the blocking effect of said entraining gear  
mechanism and of said lock substantially simultaneously.
3. (Currently amended) The clamping and/or spreading tool ~~as claimed in~~ of claim 1, wherein  
said releasing means, ~~when actuated,~~ cancels the blocking effect of said entraining gear  
mechanism and of said lock successively, ~~particularly cancelling the blocking effect of said gear~~  
~~mechanism before the blocking effect of said lock.~~
4. (Currently amended) The clamping and/or spreading tool ~~as claimed in~~ of claim 1, wherein  
said releasing means comprises a trigger and further comprising a plunger operatively connected  
to said trigger with which a component for communicating the actuating motion of said trigger is  
coupled, said component acting releasingly where said plunger moves said entraining gear  
mechanism and lock to a non-blocking position when said trigger is actuated.
5. (Currently amended) The clamping and/or spreading tool ~~as claimed in~~ of claim 1, wherein  
said releasing means comprises a trigger and further comprising a plunger operatively connected

~~to said trigger which when actuated acts releasably indirectly via a component to communicate the actuating motion of said trigger to where said plunger moves said entraining gear mechanism and said trigger moves directly to said lock to a non-blocking position when said trigger is actuated .~~

6. (Canceled)

7. (Currently amended) The clamping and/or spreading tool ~~as claimed in of claim 1~~ [[4]], wherein said releasing means comprises a trigger, said trigger is pivotally mounted on a support at a pivot mount, said support displacingly mounting said ~~push or pull~~ rod, the pivot mount of said trigger being located substantially level with said ~~push or pull~~ rod.

8. (Currently amended) The clamping and/or spreading tool ~~as claimed in of claim 1~~, wherein in addition to said entraining gear mechanism and said lock at least one further locking part counteracting displacement of said ~~push or pull~~ rod in said second clamping and/or spreading direction is provided, said locking part being releasable particularly before release of said entraining actuating mechanism and formed particularly by a trigger acting on said lock and entraining gear mechanism, said trigger comprising a passive locking position and ~~at least one or more two, preferably at least three,~~ active release positions.

9. (Currently amended) The clamping and/or spreading tool ~~as claimed in particularly in of claim 1, comprising a push or pull rod, at least one lock blocking displacement of said push or pull rod contrary to said clamping and/or spreading direction by it being wherein said lock comprises a plate that is~~ canted by at least one biasing means, such as a spring, ~~more particularly a thrust spring, relative to said push or pull rod, and a said releasing means moving said plate against the spring, which when actuated cancels the blocking effect of said lock, at least one plate of said lock for canting said push or pull rod displacingly mounted on a support of said clamping and/or spreading tool by said biasing means said plate being pivoted about a point fixed relative to said support, and said entraining mechanism comprising at least one entraining plate, said entraining plate being pivoted about a second fixed point relative to said support, said point being defined particularly on the clamping side of said push or pull rod on said support, wherein said fixed point about which said the plate of said lock is pivoted and~~ [[a]] the second

fixed point of contact about which the at least one entraining plate of said gear mechanism is pivoted for its canting with said ~~push or pull rod~~ are arranged at substantially the same level relative to the with said ~~push or pull rod~~.

10. (Currently amended) The clamping and/or spreading tool ~~as claimed in~~ of claim 9, wherein the spring ~~at least one biasing means~~ and said releasing means ~~functionally~~ engage said lock at least on opposite sides of said ~~push or pull rod~~.

11. (Currently amended) The clamping and/or spreading tool ~~as claimed in~~ of claim 10, wherein the spring ~~a biasing means~~ engages said lock on an actuating side of said ~~push or pull rod~~ and said releasing means engages said lock on a clamping side of said ~~push or pull rod~~.

12. (Currently amended) The clamping and/or spreading tool ~~as claimed in~~ of claim 10, wherein the spring ~~a biasing means~~ engages said lock on a clamping side of said ~~push or pull rod~~ and said releasing means engages said lock on an actuating side of said ~~push or pull rod~~.

13. (Currently amended) The clamping and/or spreading tool ~~as claimed in~~ of claim 9 ~~or as claimed in the preamble of claim 1~~, wherein a second spring ~~is two biasing means~~ are provided for canting said ~~at least one lock~~, the ~~[[a]]~~ first spring ~~biasing means~~ being arranged at said actuating side of said ~~push or pull rod~~ and ~~a second biasing means~~ the second spring ~~being arranged at~~ on said clamping side of said ~~push or pull rod~~.

14. (New) A clamping and/or spreading tool comprising;  
a rod,  
an entraining mechanism movable between a first position for displacing said rod in a first direction and for blocking displacement of the rod in a second direction opposite to the first direction and a second position for allowing displacement of the rod in the second direction;  
a lock, independent of said entraining mechanism, movable between a third position for blocking displacement of said rod in said second direction and a fourth position for allowing displacement of the rod in the second direction; and  
a trigger movable between a passive position and an actuated position, said trigger operatively connected to the entraining mechanism and the lock to move the entraining mechanism from the

first position to the second position and the lock from the third position to the fourth position when the trigger is moved from the passive position to the actuated position.

15. (New) The clamping and/or spreading tool of claim 14 wherein the trigger directly contacts the lock as the trigger moves from the passive position to the actuated position.

16. (New) The clamping and/or spreading tool of claim 14 wherein the trigger contacts the entraining mechanism through a plunger as the trigger moves from the passive position to the actuated position.

17. (New) The clamping and/or spreading tool of claim 14 wherein the trigger contacts the entraining mechanism and the lock through a plunger as the trigger moves from the passive position to the actuated position.

18. (New) The clamping and/or spreading tool of claim 14 wherein the entraining mechanism comprises at least one first plate that is canted relative to the rod in the first position and the lock comprises at least one second plate that is canted relative to the rod in the third position.

19. (New) The clamping and/or spreading tool of claim 18 further comprising a first spring for biasing the at least one first plate to the first position and a second spring for biasing the at least one second plate to the third position.

20. (New) The clamping and/or spreading tool of claim 14 further comprising a plunger in operative engagement with the trigger for moving with the trigger, a first spring between the plunger and the lock for biasing the lock to the third position when the trigger is in the passive position and for allowing the lock to move to the fourth position when the trigger is moved from the passive position to the actuated position, said plunger moving the entraining mechanism from the first position to the second position when the trigger is moved from the passive position to the actuated position.